

Message Text

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. THE PRC PARTY CONGRESS:

A. EARLY SOVIET REACTION

SOVIET FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY AND ACADEMIC CHINA SPECIALISTS AGREE THAT CHOU HAS EMERGED IN CONTROL. AN ACADEMICIAN WITH CLOSE TIES TO THE SOVIET PARTY BUREAUCRACY SAID THE KREMLIN CONTINUES TO REGARD CHOU AS A PRAGMATIC LEADER AND IMPLIED THEY WOULD PREFER HIM TO AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY. THERE WAS STRONG INTEREST IN WHO WOULD BE NAMED SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PARTY. THE SPECIALISTS' PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS WAS THAT THE ANTI-SOVIET ASPECTS OF THE CONGRESS WERE AT THE SECRET

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LOWER END OF THE SPECTRUM THAN COULD BE ANTICIPATED

GIVEN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. (CONFIDENTIAL)
MOSCOW 10426, 8/31.

B. ASSESSMENT OF NEW POLITBURO

CONSULATE GENERAL HONG KONG POINTS OUT THAT THE NEW COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP OF FIVE PARTY VICE CHAIRMEN HAS REMOVED CHOU FROM HIS EXPOSED POSITION A LA LIN, WHILE

LEAVING HIM CLEARLY PRIMUS INTER PARES. THE NEW 21-MEMBER POLITBURO CUT BACK SHARPLY ON MILITARY AND CULTURAL REVOLUTION EXTREMIST REPRESENTATION. THE CONSULATE PREDICTS THAT SHANGHAI CHIEF CHANG CHUN-CHIAO, WHILE NOT AMONG THE VICE CHAIRMEN, WILL EMERGE AS THE PARTY'S SECRETARY GENERAL, A POWERFUL POSITION IN THE PAST. (CONFIDENTIAL) HONG KONG 8729, 8/31.

C. NEW NUMBER THREE WANG: YOUTH TOKENISM

USLO PEKING BELIEVES THAT WANG HUNG-WEN, THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY'S NEW NUMBER THREE, WAS PICKED FOR HIS YOUTH, GENERAL ACCEPTABILITY, AND COMPETENCE. MAO AND CHOU, USLO NOTES, ARE AWARE OF THE NEED FOR YOUNG BLOOD IN THE PARTY'S UPPER REACHES, AND WANG'S ELEVATION SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE YOUNGER GENERATION WHOSE HOPES WERE SQUASHED BY LIFE'S HARD REALITIES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE FOLLOWING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. (CONFIDENTIAL) PEKING 966, 8/31.

2. PEKING AND THE SUBCONTINENT

CONSULATE GENERAL HONG KONG SPECULATES THAT PAKISTANI MINISTER OF STATE AZIZ AHMED'S ARRIVAL IN PEKING MAY PRESAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT PRC-PAKISTAN POLICY ON FURTHER NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND BANGLADESH FOLLOWING THE AUGUST 28 AGREEMENT. WHILE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN WOULD SEEM TO FULFILL THE PRC'S CONDITIONS FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH INDIA (I.E., RAISING REPRESENTATION TO THE AMBASSADORIAL
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LEVEL, RECOGNIZING BANGLADESH, AND SUPPORTING ITS UN ADMISSION), THE ULTIMATE DISPOSITION OF THE REMAINING 195 PAKISTANI POW'S AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT ARE FACTORS THE TWO SIDES WILL PROBABLY CONSIDER CLOSELY DURING THE VISIT. (CONFIDENTIAL)
HONG KONG 8763, 8/31.

3. FRANCE SEEKS NEW EC ALLY?

EMBASSY PARIS COMMENTS THAT PRESIDENT POMPIDOU'S REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE SPANISH COMMON MARKET ENTRY AT THE CABINET MEETING AUGUST 30 (FOLLOWING FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT'S MADRID VISIT) MAY REFLECT A FRENCH DESIRE TO FIND A SUITABLE LATIN COUNTERWEIGHT TO GROWING ANGLO-SAXON INFLUENCE FOLLOWING THE EC'S ENLARGEMENT FROM SIX TO NINE. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) PARIS 23195, 8/31.

4. REYKJAVIK: FISHERIES FRUSTRATION

NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF SOURCES TOLD USNATO THAT ICELANDIC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TOMASSON INFORMED SYG LUNS LAST WEEK THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO BE RECALLED IN PROTEST OVER NATO'S FAILURE TO HALT BRITISH AGGRESSION IN THE FISHERIES DISPUTE. LUNS SENT AN URGENT PERSONAL MESSAGE TO DOUGLAS-HOME PROPOSING UK WITHDRAWAL IN EXCHANGE FOR ICELANDIC WILLINGNESS TO HOLD BILATERAL TALKS LEADING TO SETTLEMENT IN ONE WEEK. THE SOURCES SAY THE BRITISH REPLY WAS ENTIRELY NEGATIVE, AND THEY HAVE LITTLE DOUBT TOMASSON WILL BE RECALLED. (CONFIDENTIAL) USNATO 4090, 8/31 (LIMDIS).

IN REYKJAVIK, A FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD AMBASSADOR IRVING THAT TOMASSON WAS BEING INSTRUCTED YESTERDAY TO ADVISE NATO TO REQUEST THE UK TERMINATE ITS MARITIME PATROL FLIGHTS IN THE VICINITY OF ICELAND. THE OFFICIAL MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE PRIME MINISTER IN HIS PRESENT MOOD WOULD NOT HESITATE TO EXTEND ICELAND'S TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY TO FIFTY MILES IF THE FLIGHTS DO NOT CEASE IMMEDIATELY. (SECRET) REYKJAVIK 1013, 8/31.

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5. RIGHTWING ALIGNMENT TALKS AT IMPASSE

THE INITIATIVE OF FORMER GENERAL SHARON TO CREATE A NEW RIGHTWING POLITICAL ALIGNMENT BEFORE THIS FALL'S KNESSET ELECTIONS REACHED A SERIOUS IMPASSE WHEN THE GAHAL PARTY EXECUTIVE VOTED TO REJECT SHARON'S OFFER OF PARTLY PRESENTATION ON A JOINT LIST. WHILE THERE MAY BE FURTHER EFFORTS, OUR EMBASSY BELIEVES THE OUTLOOK APPEARS BLEAK. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY BEING AUTHORITATIVELY MOOTED IS THAT THE THREE PARTIES MAY GO TO ELECTIONS SEPARATELY AND DECIDE ON A KNESSET ALIGNMENT AFTERWARDS. (UNCLASSIFIED) TEL AVIV 6890, 8/31. ROGERS

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